MARVEL COMICS
SPIDER-MAN
MAR '97 7
UNCANNY ORIGINS
FEATURING
VENOM
ONLY 99¢
THE DEADLY DEBUT OF SPIDERMAN'S NASTIEST NEMESIS!

HE CALLS HIMSELF VENOM THE LETHAL PROTECTOR!
HE THINKS OF HIMSELF AS A SUPER HERO--DEDICATED TO DEFENDING THE INNOCENT FROM EVILDOERS EVERYWHERE.
BUT THE REALITY IS THAT HE IS A GROTESQUE PARODY OF EVERYTHING HE BELIEVES HIMSELF TO BE, A SUPER HERO IN HIS MIND AND HIS MIND ALONE...
...FOR NO GOOD DEED HE DOES IN THE PRESENT CAN EVER ERASE THE EVIL OF HIS OWN WRETCHED PAST!
ORIGINAL SIN!
BOB BUDIANSKY WRITER
DAVE HOOVER PENCILS
BILL ANDERSON INKER
JACK MORELLI LETTERS
BOB SHAREN COLORS
TERRY KAVANAGH EDITOR
BOB HARRAS CHIEF
DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF MARK GRUENWALD --A FRIEND IN THE TRUEST SENSE OF THE WORD.

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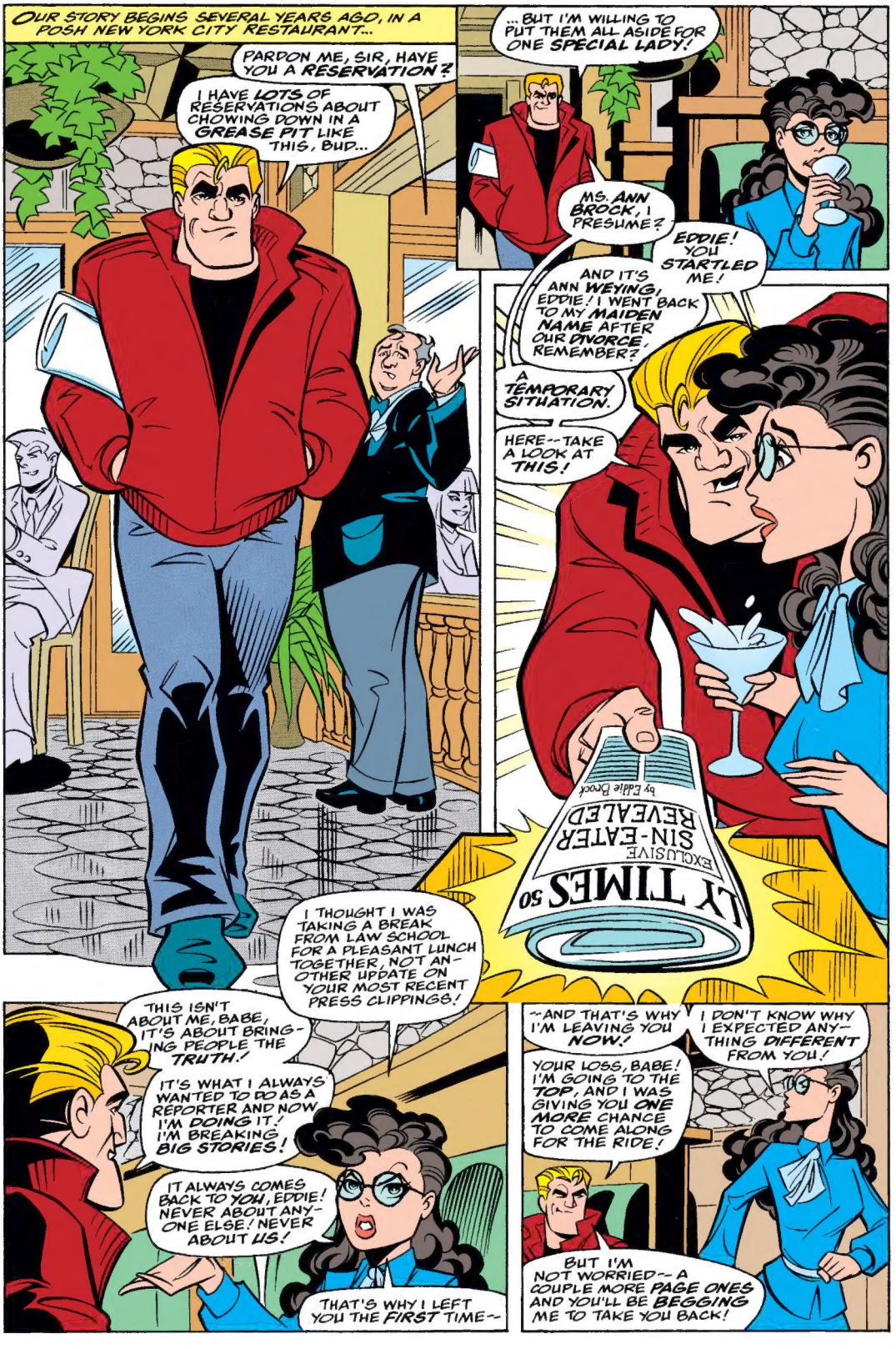
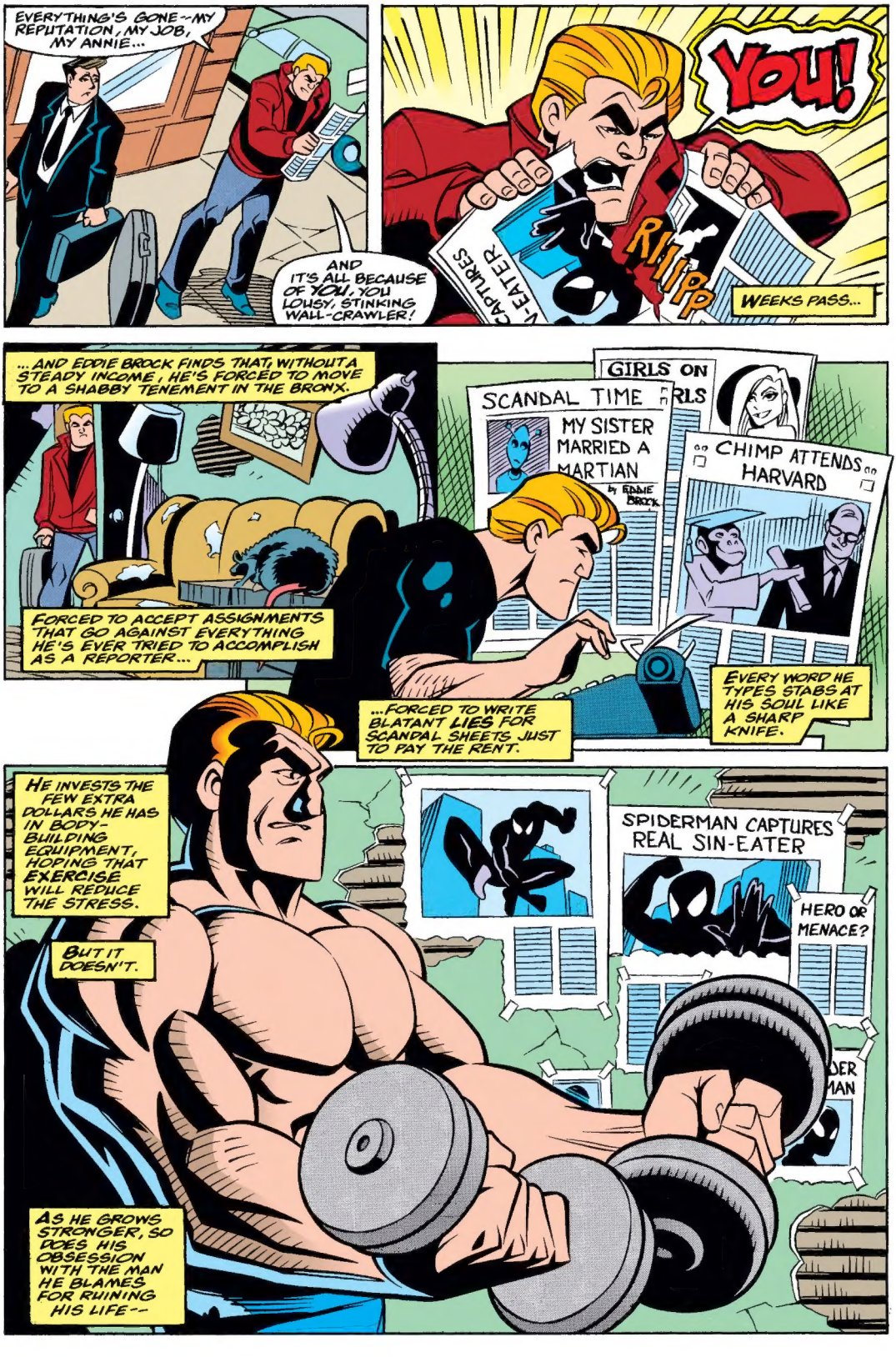
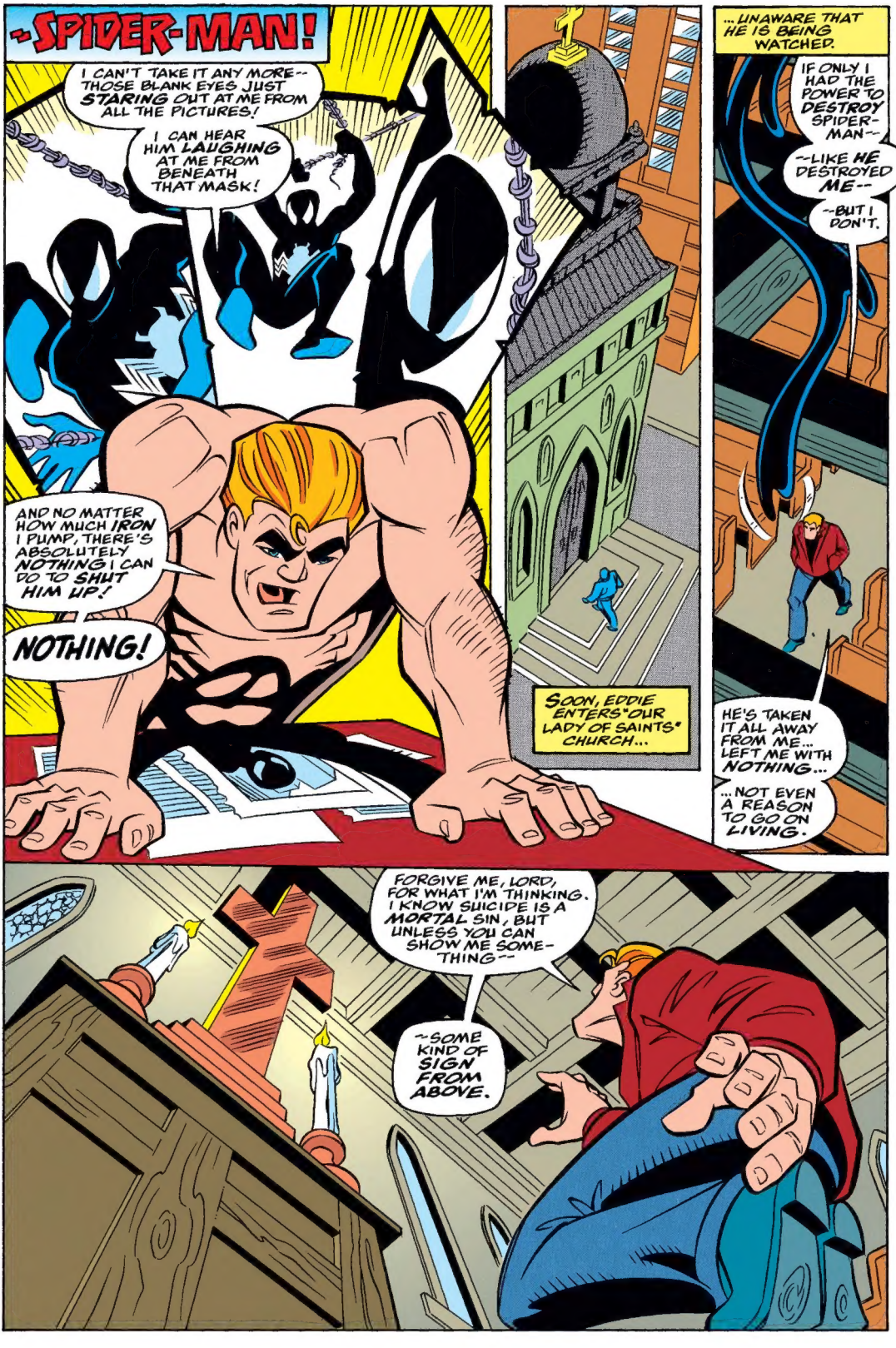

OUR STORY BEGINS SEVERAL YEARS AGO, IN A POSH NEW YORK CITY RESTAURANT...
PARDON ME, SIR, HAVE YOU A RESERVATION?
I HAVE LOTS OF RESERVATIONS ABOUT CHOWING DOWN IN A GREASE PIT LIKE THIS, BUD...
...BUT I'M WILLING TO PUT THEM ALL ASIDE FOR ONE SPECIAL LADY!
MS. ANN BROCK, I PRESUME?
EDDIE! YOU STARTLED ME!
AND IT'S ANN WEYING, EDDIE! I WENT BACK TO MY MAIDEN NAME AFTER OUR DIVORCE, REMEMBER?
A TEMPORARY SITUATION.
HERE--TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!
EXCLUSIVE
SIN-EATER REVEALED
by Eddie Brock
LY TIMES 50
I THOUGHT I WAS TAKING A BREAK FROM LAW SCHOOL FOR A PLEASANT LUNCH TOGETHER, NOT ANOTHER UPDATE ON YOUR MOST RECENT PRESS CLIPPINGS!
THIS ISN'T ABOUT ME, BABE, IT'S ABOUT BRINGING PEOPLE THE TRUTH!
IT'S WHAT I ALWAYS WANTED TO DO AS A REPORTER AND NOW I'M DOING IT! I'M BREAKING BIG STORIES!
IT ALWAYS COMES BACK TO YOU, EDDIE! NEVER ABOUT ANYONE ELSE! NEVER ABOUT US!
THAT'S WHY I LEFT YOU THE FIRST TIME--
--AND THAT'S WHY I'M LEAVING YOU NOW!
I DON'T KNOW WHY I EXPECTED ANYTHING DIFFERENT FROM YOU!
YOUR LOSS, BABE! I'M GOING TO THE TOP, AND I WAS GIVING YOU ONE MORE CHANCE TO COME ALONG FOR THE RIDE!
BUT I'M NOT WORRIED-- A COUPLE MORE PAGE ONES AND YOU'LL BE BEGGING ME TO TAKE YOU BACK!

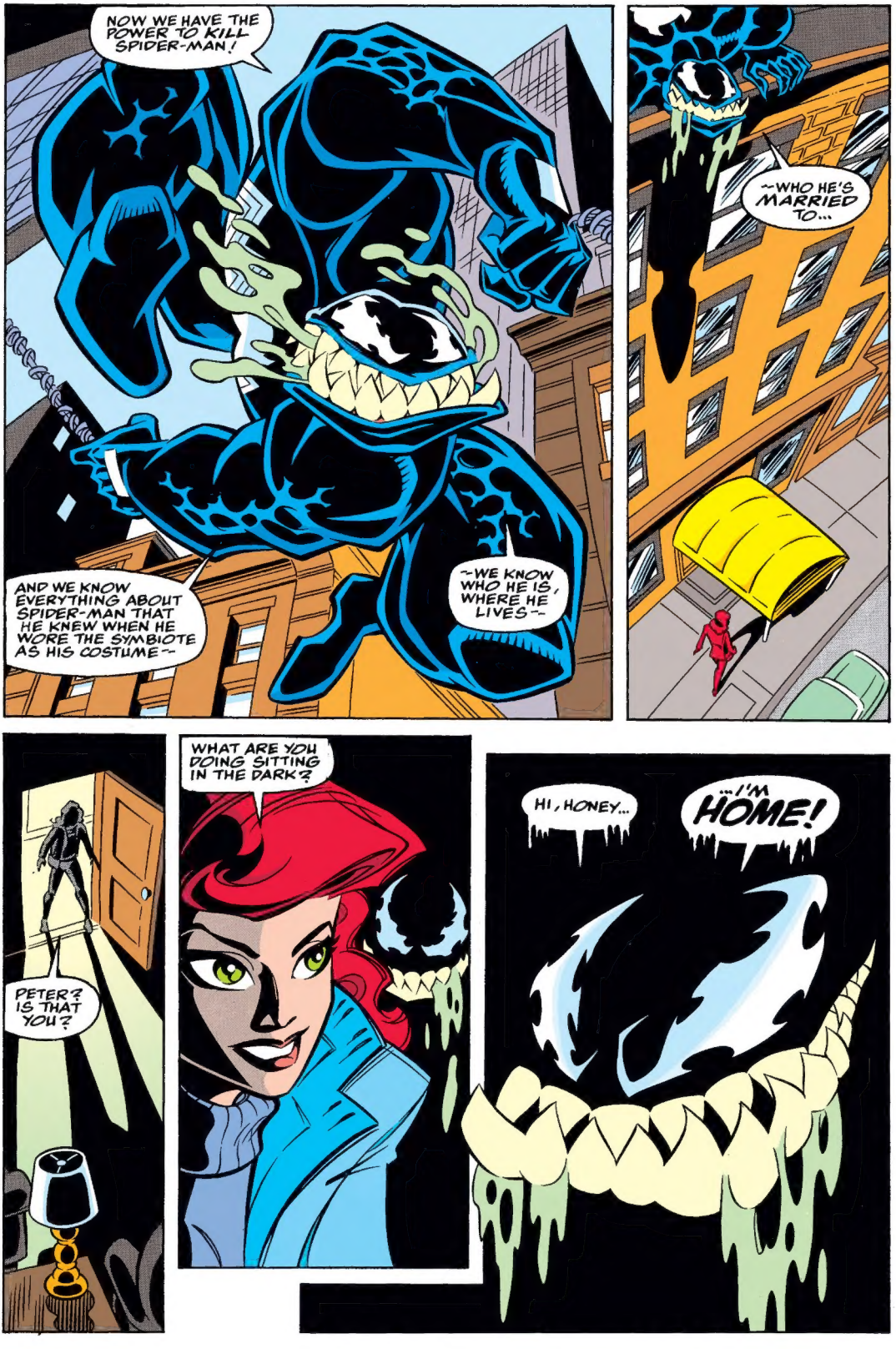
LATER...
...AT THE OFFICES OF THE DAILY GLOBE...
--CAN'T IMAGINE WHY BUSHKIN CALLED ME IN ON MY DAY OFF!
MAYBE HE FEELS A RAISE IS IN ORDER FOR MY EXCLUSIVE, AND COULDN'T WAIT ANOTHER DAY TO GIVE IT TO ME!
SO BOSS, WHY THE EMERGENCY? YOU NEED ME TO DIG UP SOMETHING FOR TOMORROW'S FRONT PAGE?
EDITOR IN CHIEF
BROCK, YOU IDIOT! DID YOU SEE THE HEADLINE OF THE BUGLE'S AFTERNOON EDITION?!
SPIDERM
IS THIS SOME KIND OF JOKE?
YOU'RE THE JOKE, BROCK! YOUR SLIPSHOD REPORTING HAS MADE A MOCKERY OF THE JOURNALISM PROFESSION EVER SINCE I BROUGHT YOU ON STAFF!
SPIDERMAN CAPTURES REAL SIN-EATER
YOU FINGERED THE WRONG SIN-EATER!!
SPIDERMAN CAPTURES REAL SIN-EATER
THIS IS THE LAST TIME I RUN A STORY OF YOURS WHERE YOU DON'T DOUBLE-CHECK YOUR SOURCES!
YOU'RE FIRED!

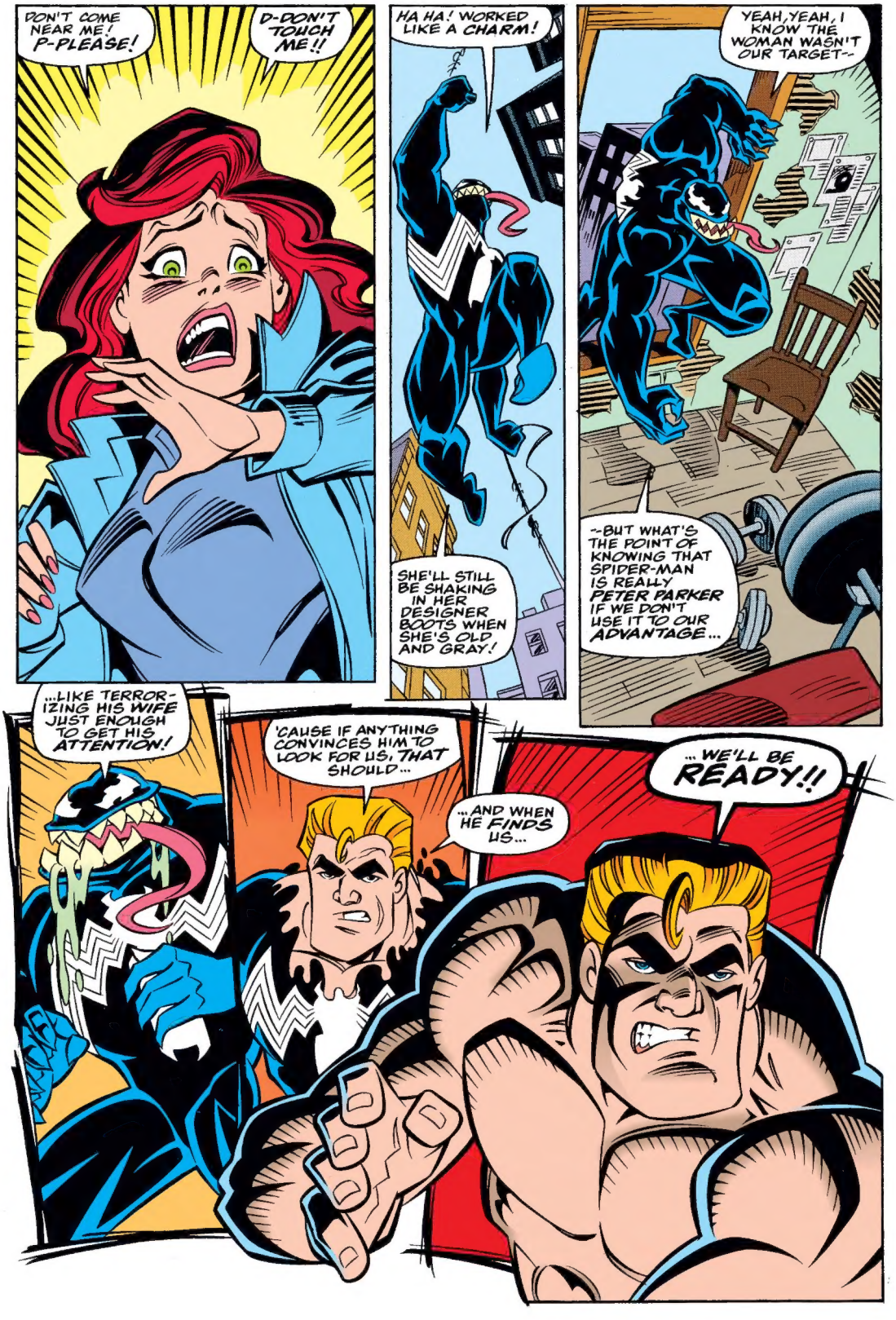

EVERYTHING'S GONE--MY REPUTATION, MY JOB, MY ANNIE...
AND IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF YOU, YOU LOUSY, STINKING WALL-CRAWLER!
YOU!
RIIIPP
WEEKS PASS...
...AND EDDIE BROCK FINDS THAT, WITHOUT A STEADY INCOME, HE'S FORCED TO MOVE TO A SHABBY TENEMENT IN THE BRONX.
FORCED TO ACCEPT ASSIGNMENTS THAT GO AGAINST EVERYTHING HE'S EVER TRIED TO ACCOMPLISH AS A REPORTER...
GIRLS ON
SCANDAL TIME
MY SISTER MARRIED A MARTIAN
by EDDIE BROCK
CHIMP ATTENDS HARVARD
...FORCED TO WRITE BLATANT LIES FOR SCANDAL SHEETS JUST TO PAY THE RENT.
EVERY WORD HE TYPES STABS AT HIS SOUL LIKE A SHARP KNIFE.
HE INVESTS THE FEW EXTRA DOLLARS HE HAS IN BODY-BUILDING EQUIPMENT, HOPING THAT EXERCISE WILL REDUCE THE STRESS.
BUT IT DOESN'T.
SPIDERMAN CAPTURES REAL SIN-EATER
HERO OR MENACE?
AS HE GROWS STRONGER, SO DOES HIS OBSESSION WITH THE MAN HE BLAMES FOR RUINING HIS LIFE--


-SPIDER-MAN!
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANY MORE-- THOSE BLANK EYES JUST STARING OUT AT ME FROM ALL THE PICTURES!
I CAN HEAR HIM LAUGHING AT ME FROM BENEATH THAT MASK!
AND NO MATTER HOW MUCH IRON I PUMP, THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NOTHING I CAN DO TO SHUT HIM UP!
NOTHING!
SOON, EDDIE ENTERS "OUR LADY OF SAINTS" CHURCH...
...UNAWARE THAT HE IS BEING WATCHED.
IF ONLY I HAD THE POWER TO DESTROY SPIDER-MAN--
--LIKE HE DESTROYED ME--
--BUT I DON'T.
HE'S TAKEN IT ALL AWAY FROM ME... LEFT ME WITH NOTHING...
...NOT EVEN A REASON TO GO ON LIVING.
FORGIVE ME, LORD, FOR WHAT I'M THINKING. I KNOW SUICIDE IS A MORTAL SIN, BUT UNLESS YOU CAN SHOW ME SOME-THING--
--SOME KIND OF SIGN FROM ABOVE.

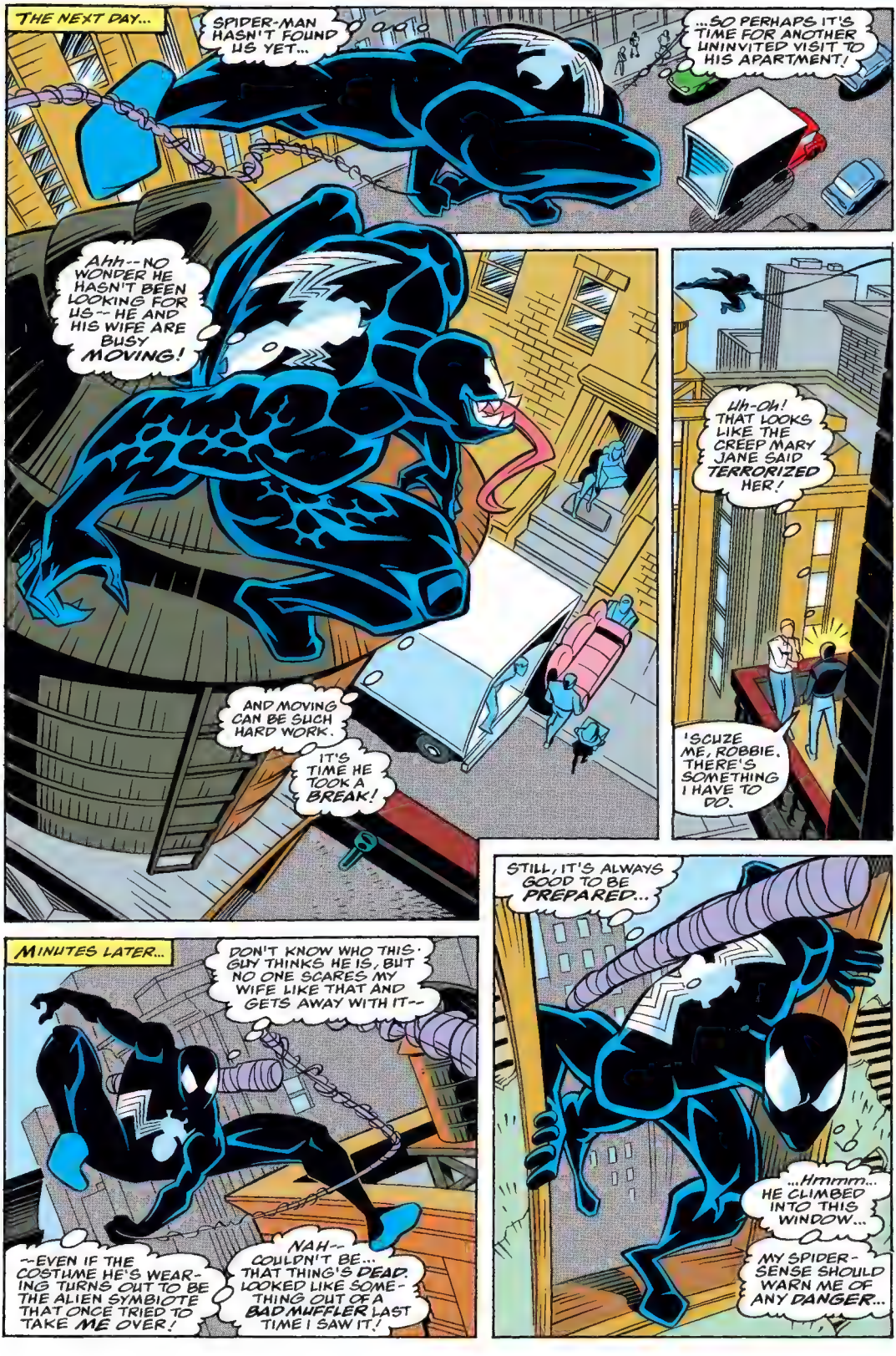
...IT'S MY ONLY HOPE.
Wha--?!
WH-WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME??!

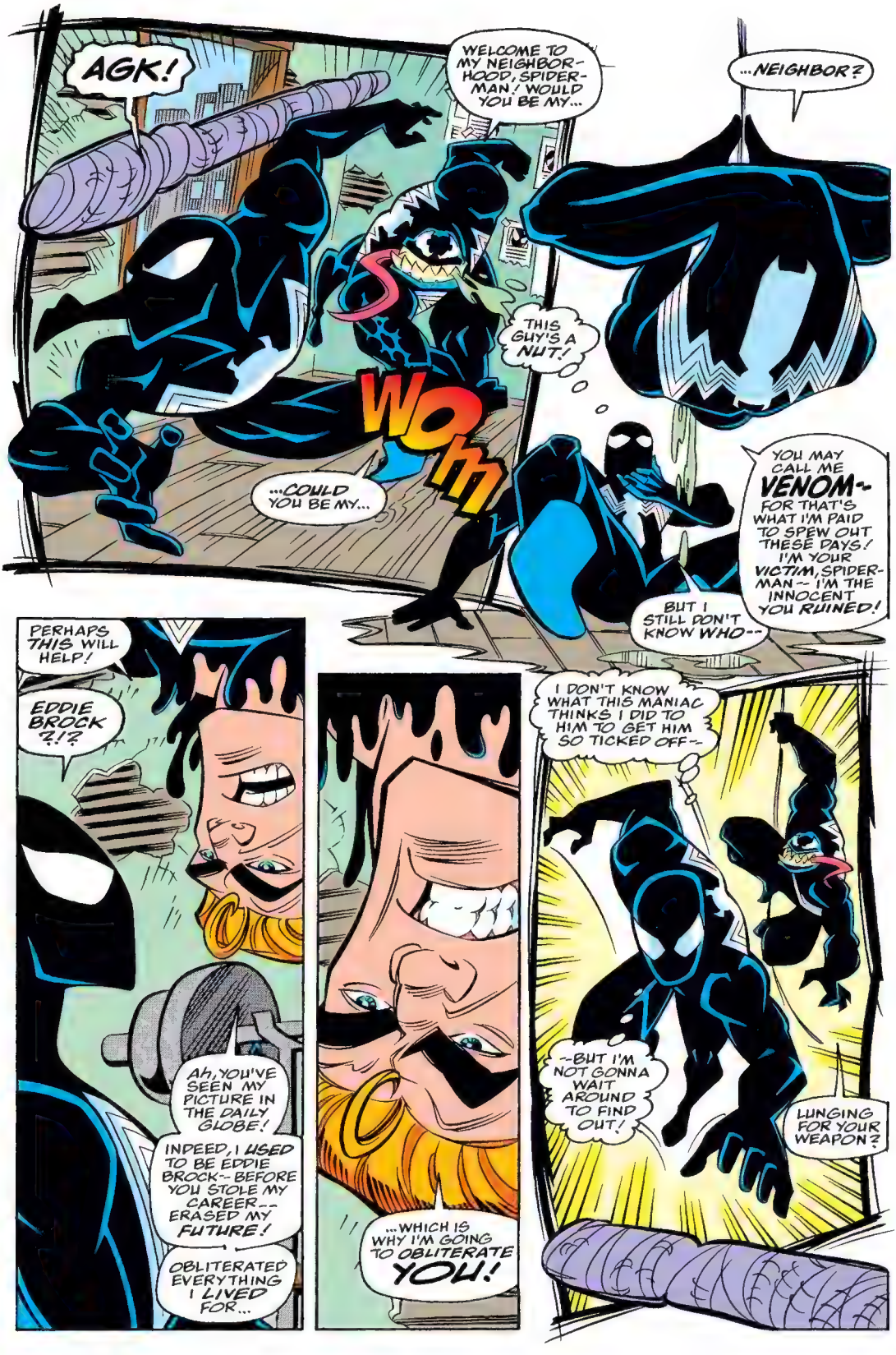
ARRGH!
SOMETHING'S CLAWING AT MY MIND ...TRYING TO TAKE IT OVER!
NOOOO!!
FEEL LIKE MY BRAIN'S BEING RIPPED OPEN ...IMAGES POURING IN--
--I SEE SPIDER-MAN... ON SOME ALIEN WORLD!
SOME BLACK... THING... WRAPPED AROUND HIM-- COVERING HIS BODY!
SPIDER-MAN'S BACK ON EARTH-- WEARING HIS BLACK COSTUME-- BUT IT'S MORE THAN A COSTUME--
--IT'S A LIVING SYMBIOTIC CREATURE... THAT THING FROM THE ALIEN WORLD...
...SPIDER-MAN BROUGHT IT HOME WITH HIM-- DIDN'T KNOW HIS NEW COSTUME WAS ALIVE...
...AND IT HAS GREAT POWER... TOO MUCH EVEN FOR SPIDER-MAN...
...BUT HE KNOWS ITS WEAKNESS... HE KNOWS SOUND CAN HURT IT!
HE THINKS THE CLANGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS KILLED IT...
...THESE CHURCH BELLS!
WAITING FOR ME!
BUT SPIDER-MAN WAS WRONG... THE CREATURE SURVIVED ... KEPT ALIVE BY ITS HATRED OF SPIDER-MAN... FOR WHAT HE TRIED TO DO TO IT!
AND IT'S BEEN WAITING HERE EVER SINCE... WAITING IN THESE SHADOWS...
...FOR SOMEONE WHOSE HATRED OF SPIDER-MAN MATCHES ITS OWN!
NOW WE ARE UNITED-- MIND AND BODY... HEART AND SOUL...
...NOW WE ARE JOINED!

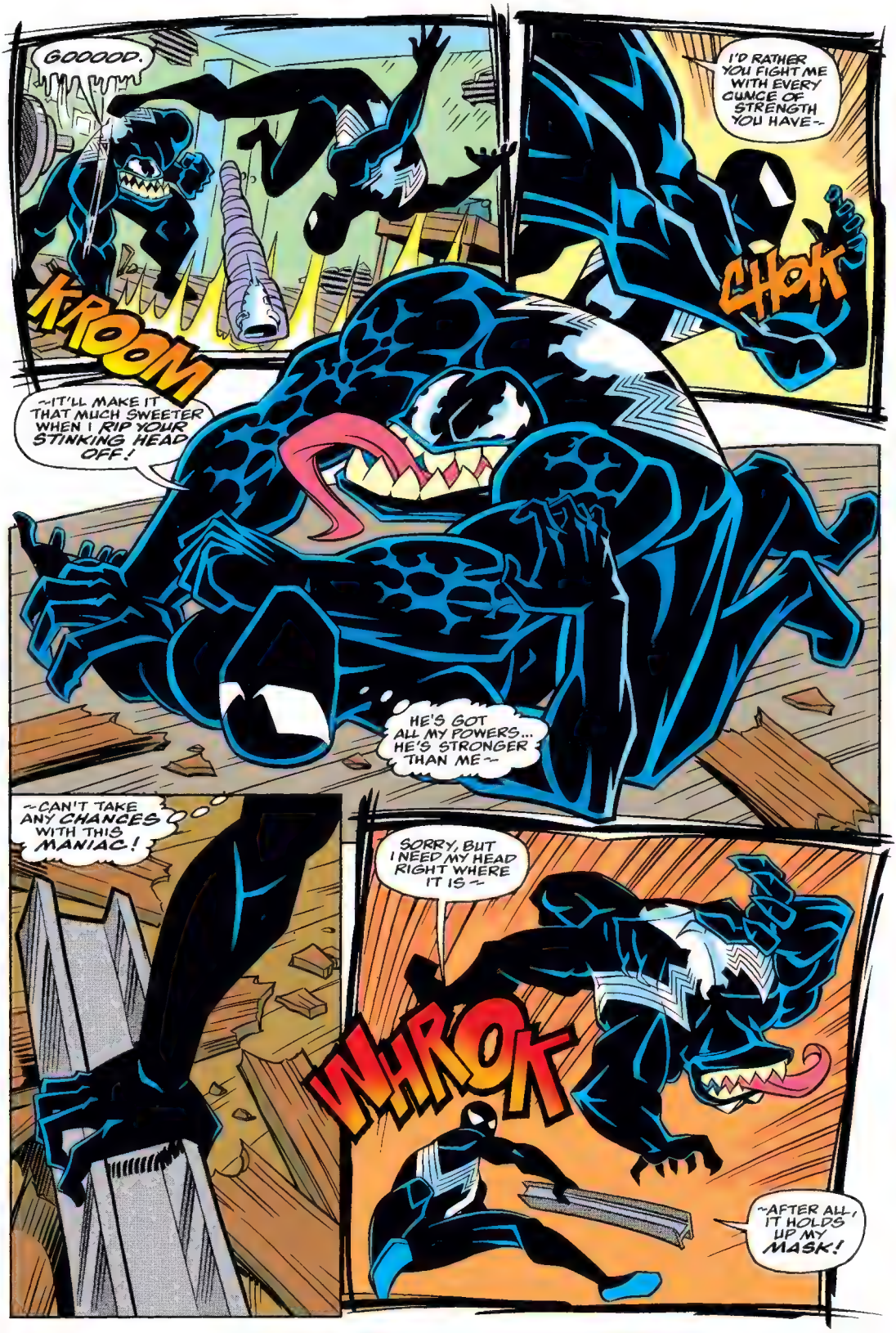

NOW WE HAVE THE POWER TO KILL SPIDER-MAN!
AND WE KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT SPIDER-MAN THAT HE KNEW WHEN HE WORE THE SYMBIOTE AS HIS COSTUME--
--WE KNOW WHO HE IS, WHERE HE LIVES--
--WHO HE'S MARRIED TO...
PETER? IS THAT YOU?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING SITTING IN THE DARK?
HI, HONEY...
...I'M HOME!

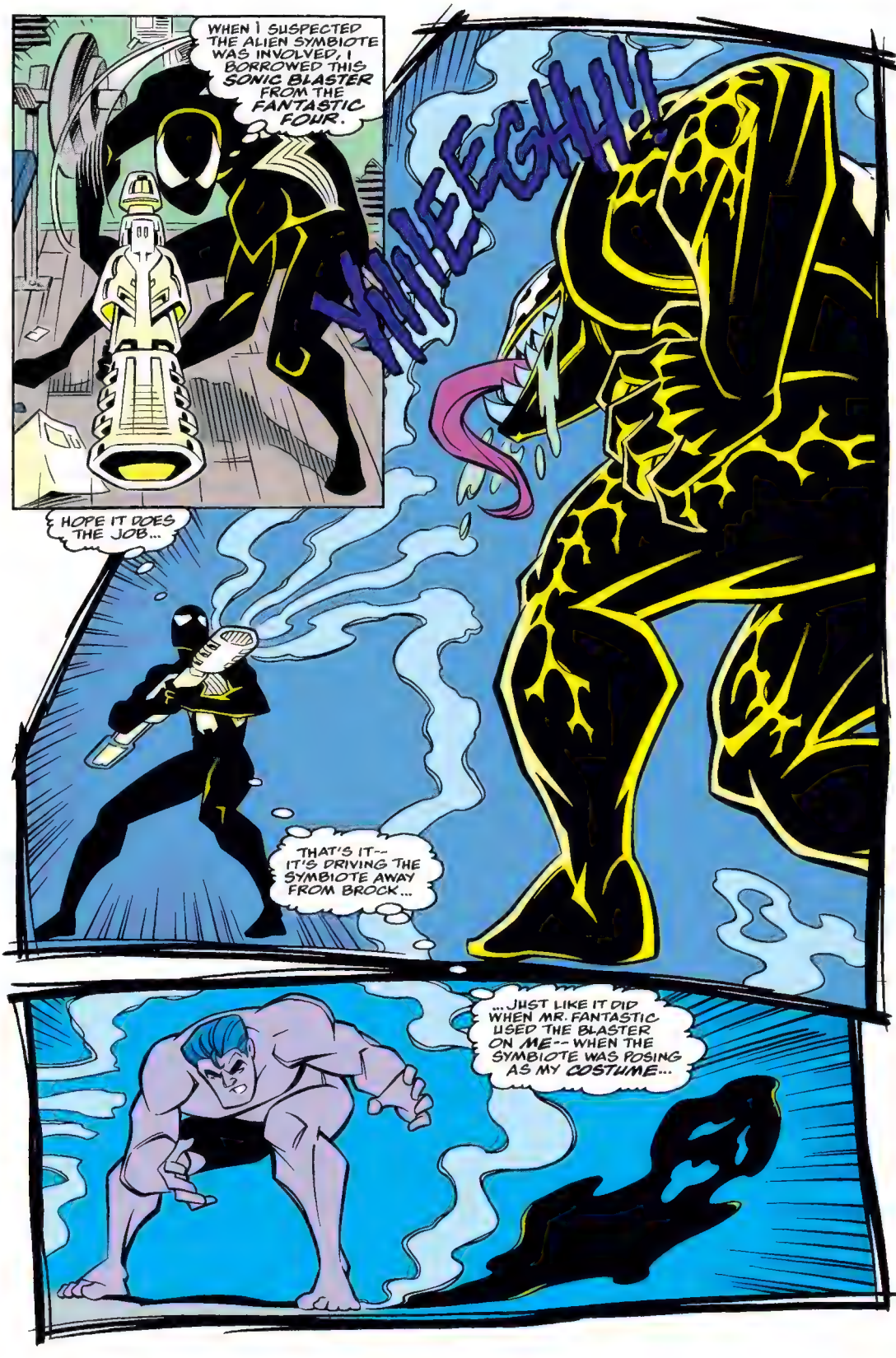

DON'T COME NEAR ME! P-PLEASE!
D-DON'T TOUCH ME!!
HA HA! WORKED LIKE A CHARM!
SHE'LL STILL BE SHAKING IN HER DESIGNER BOOTS WHEN SHE'S OLD AND GRAY!
YEAH, YEAH, I KNOW THE WOMAN WASN'T OUR TARGET--
--BUT WHAT'S THE POINT OF KNOWING THAT SPIDER-MAN IS REALLY PETER PARKER IF WE DON'T USE IT TO OUR ADVANTAGE...
...LIKE TERRORIZING HIS WIFE JUST ENOUGH TO GET HIS ATTENTION!
'CAUSE IF ANYTHING CONVINCES HIM TO LOOK FOR US, THAT SHOULD...
...AND WHEN HE FINDS US...
... WE'LL BE READY!!

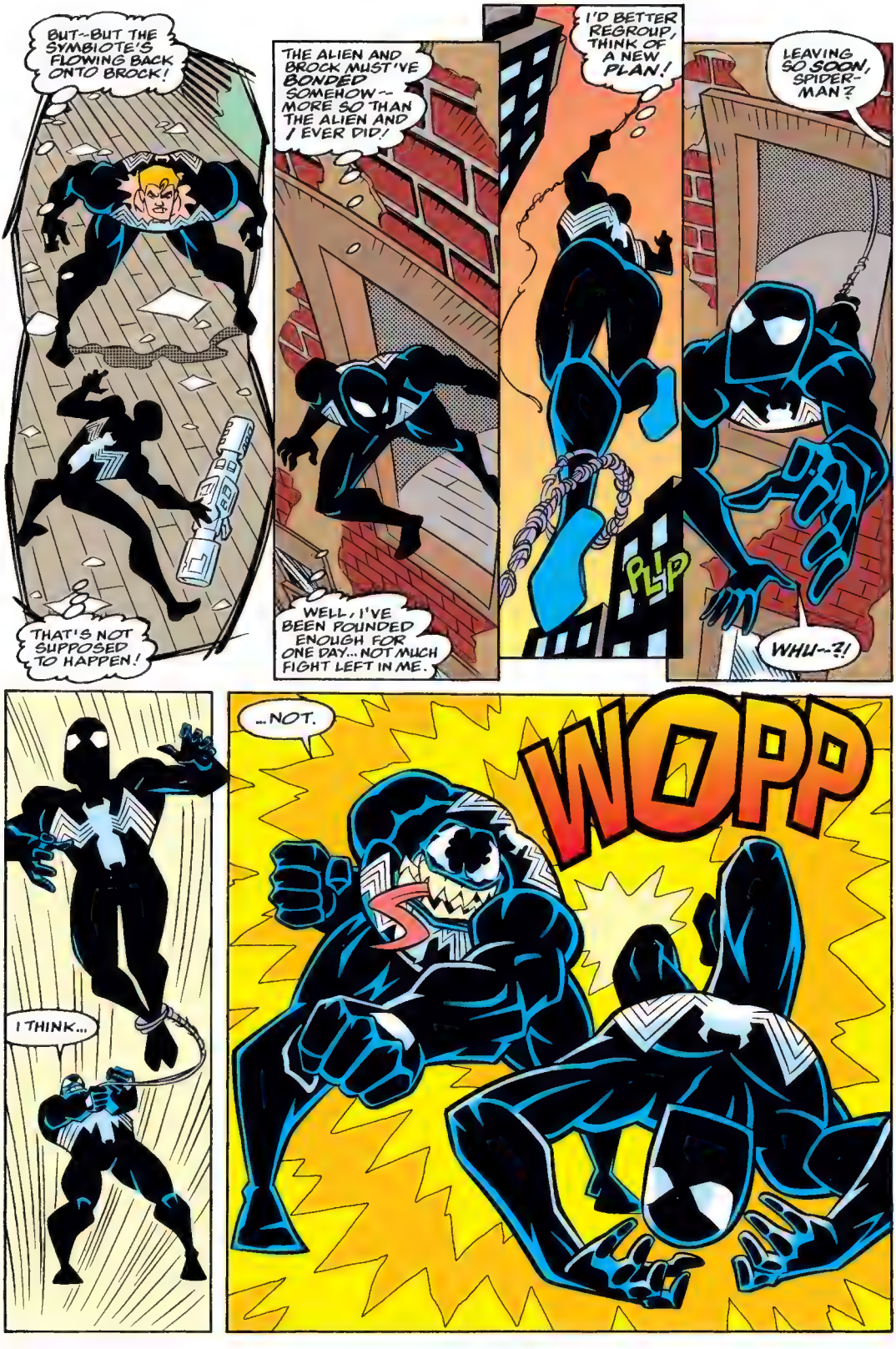
LATER THAT NIGHT...
IT ALL BEGAN HERE...
...IT'S ONLY FITTING THAT IT SHOULD END HERE.
WE NEED TO MAKE PREPARATIONS--
FREEZE!
LOOKS LIKE PUTTIN' EXTRA FOOT PATROLS ON THE BEAT WORKED! I BET YOU'RE THE BUM WHO HAS BEEN PILFERIN' THE POOR BOXES IN THE AREA!
DON'T BE A FOOL, BOY! PETTY CASH IS OF NO CONCERN TO ME!
SAVE IT FOR THE STATION HOUSE, BUSTER!
IT SEEMS YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE...
...THOUGH THIS PARTICULAR CHOICE WE FIND...
...REPULSIVE!
C-CAN'T... BREATHE! ACK!
INNOCENT DEATH IS ALWAYS UNPLEASANT.
BUT NOTHING MUST STAND IN OUR WAY. NOTHING MUST BLOCK OUR RIGHTEOUS REVENGE! AND BY ALL THAT'S SACRED--
~NOTHING WILL!

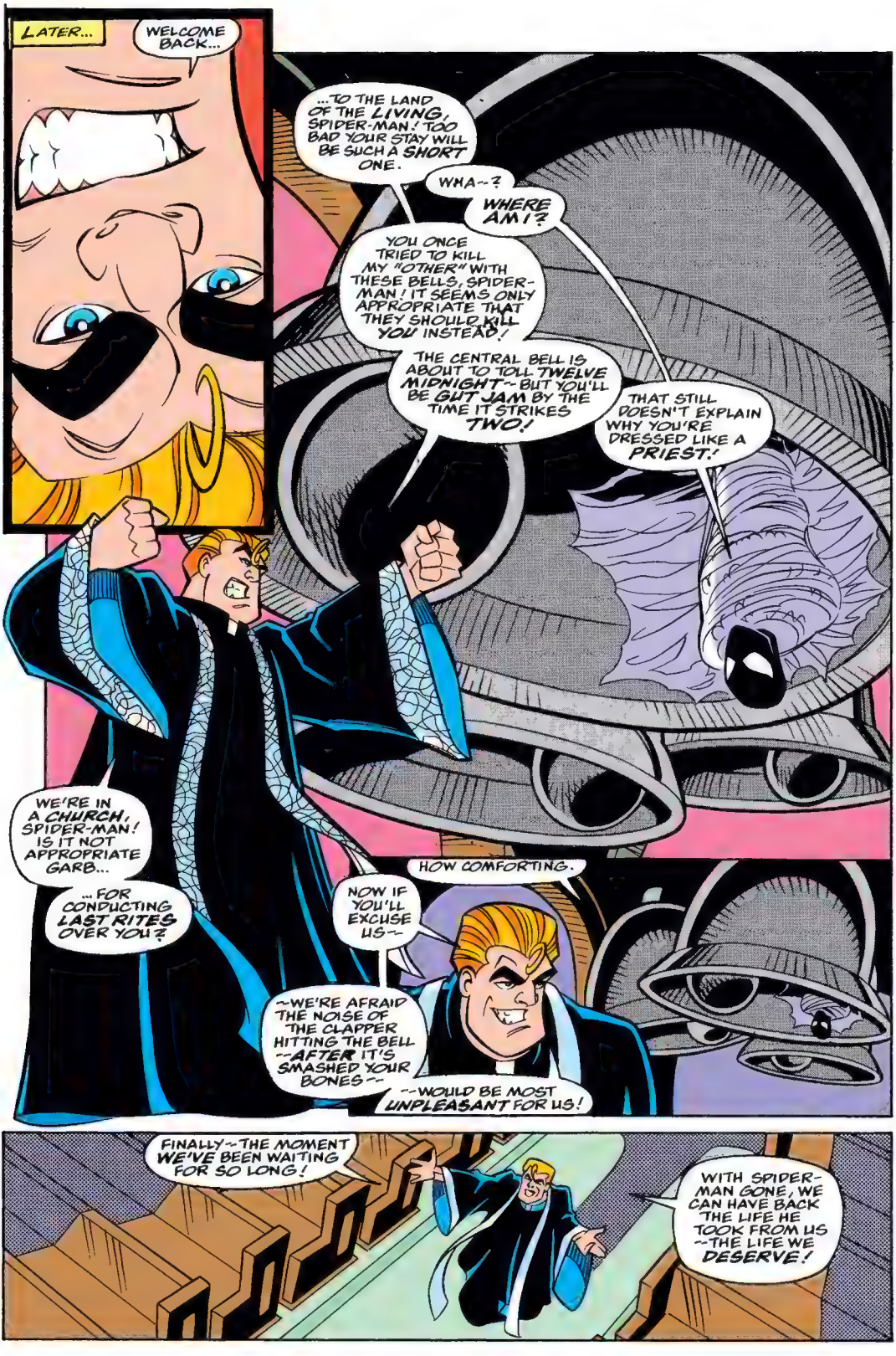

THE NEXT DAY...
SPIDER-MAN HASN'T FOUND US YET...
...SO PERHAPS IT'S TIME FOR ANOTHER UNINVITED VISIT TO HIS APARTMENT!
Ahh--NO WONDER HE HASN'T BEEN LOOKING FOR US-- HE AND HIS WIFE ARE BUSY MOVING!
AND MOVING CAN BE SUCH HARD WORK.
IT'S TIME HE TOOK A BREAK!
Uh-Oh! THAT LOOKS LIKE THE CREEP MARY JANE SAID TERRORIZED HER!
'SCUZE ME, ROBBIE. THERE'S SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO.
STILL, IT'S ALWAYS GOOD TO BE PREPARED...
...Hmmm... HE CLIMBED INTO THIS WINDOW...
MY SPIDER-SENSE SHOULD WARN ME OF ANY DANGER...
MINUTES LATER...
DON'T KNOW WHO THIS GUY THINKS HE IS, BUT NO ONE SCARES MY WIFE LIKE THAT AND GETS AWAY WITH IT--
--EVEN IF THE COSTUME HE'S WEARING TURNS OUT TO BE THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE THAT ONCE TRIED TO TAKE ME OVER!
NAH-- COULDN'T BE... THAT THING'S DEAD. LOOKED LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A BAD MUFFLER LAST TIME I SAW IT!

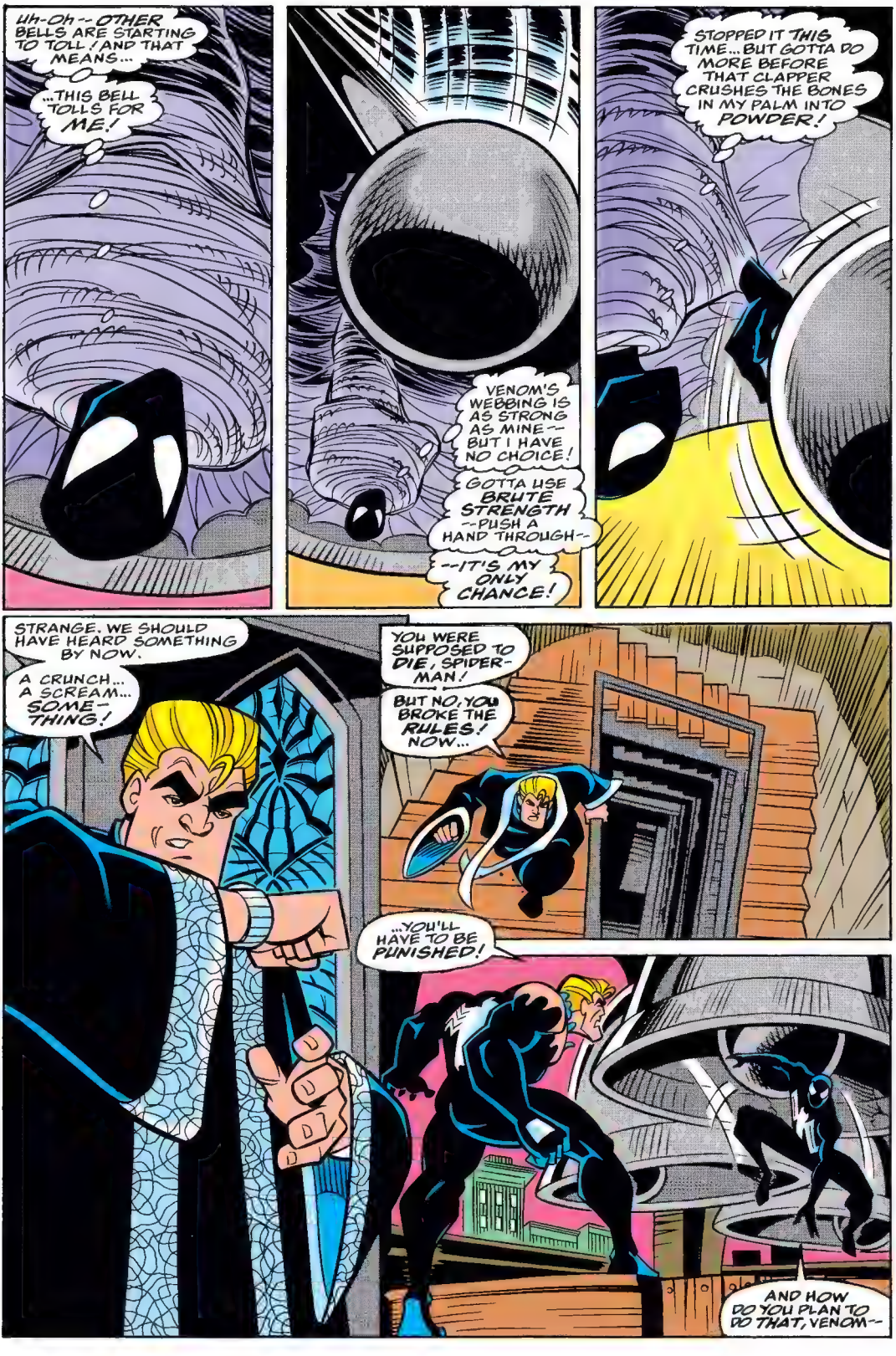

AGK!
WELCOME TO MY NEIGHBOR-HOOD, SPIDER-MAN! WOULD YOU BE MY...
...NEIGHBOR?
THIS GUY'S A NUT!
WOM
...COULD YOU BE MY...
YOU MAY CALL ME VENOM-- FOR THAT'S WHAT I'M PAID TO SPEW OUT THESE DAYS! I'M YOUR VICTIM, SPIDER-MAN -- I'M THE INNOCENT YOU RUINED!
BUT I STILL DON'T KNOW WHO--
PERHAPS THIS WILL HELP!
EDDIE BROCK ?!?
AH, YOU'VE SEEN MY PICTURE IN THE DAILY GLOBE!
INDEED, I USED TO BE EDDIE BROCK-- BEFORE YOU STOLE MY CAREER-- ERASED MY FUTURE!
OBLITERATED EVERYTHING I LIVED FOR...
...WHICH IS WHY I'M GOING TO OBLITERATE YOU!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS MANIAC THINKS I DID TO HIM TO GET HIM SO TICKED OFF--
--BUT I'M NOT GONNA WAIT AROUND TO FIND OUT!
LUNGING FOR YOUR WEAPON?

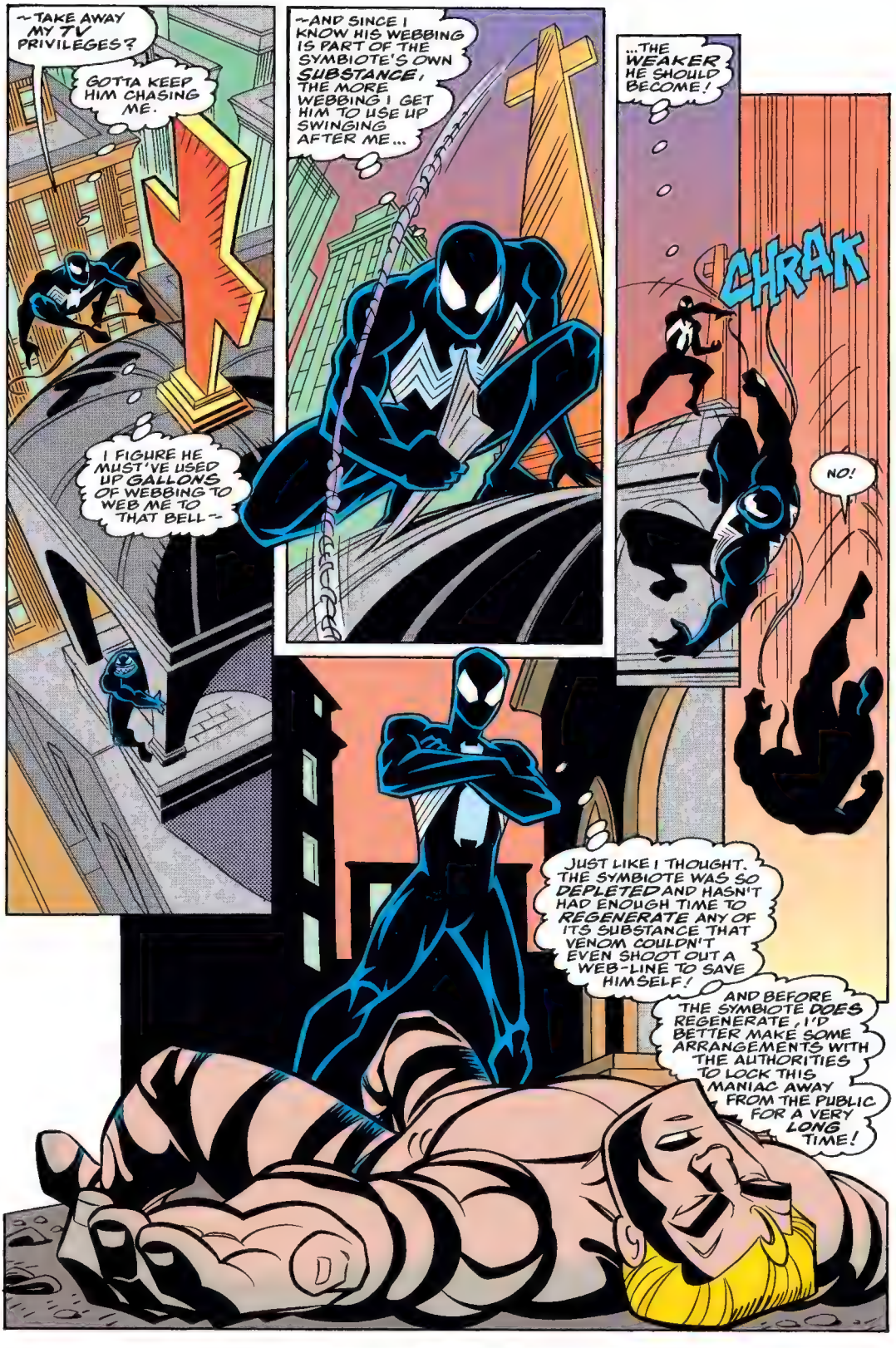

GOOOOD.
KROOM
I'D RATHER YOU FIGHT ME WITH EVERY OUNCE OF STRENGTH YOU HAVE--
CHOK
--IT'LL MAKE IT THAT MUCH SWEETER WHEN I RIP YOUR STINKING HEAD OFF!
HE'S GOT ALL MY POWERS... HE'S STRONGER THAN ME--
--CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES WITH THIS MANIAC!
SORRY, BUT I NEED MY HEAD RIGHT WHERE IT IS --
WHROK
--AFTER ALL, IT HOLDS UP MY MASK!

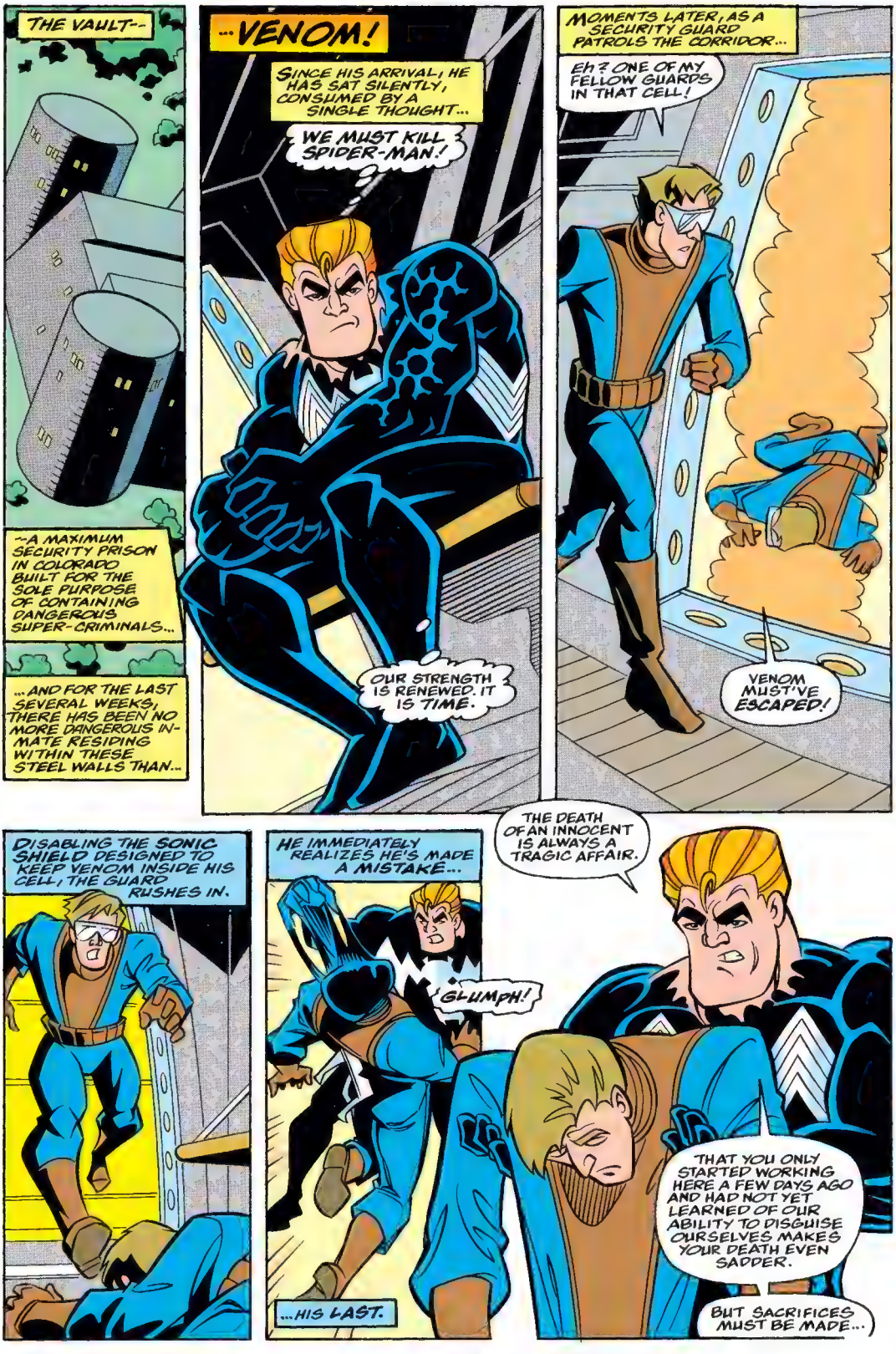

WHEN I SUSPECTED THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE WAS INVOLVED, I BORROWED THIS SONIC BLASTER FROM THE FANTASTIC FOUR.
YHHEEGHH!!
I HOPE IT DOES THE JOB...
THAT'S IT-- IT'S DRIVING THE SYMBIOTE AWAY FROM BROCK...
...JUST LIKE IT DID WHEN MR. FANTASTIC USED THE BLASTER ON ME-- WHEN THE SYMBIOTE WAS POSING AS MY COSTUME...


BUT--BUT THE SYMBIOTE'S FLOWING BACK ONTO BROCK!
THAT'S NOT SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN!
THE ALIEN AND BROCK MUST'VE BONDED SOMEHOW--MORE SO THAN THE ALIEN AND I EVER DID!
WELL, I'VE BEEN POUNDED ENOUGH FOR ONE DAY... NOT MUCH FIGHT LEFT IN ME.
I'D BETTER REGROUP, THINK OF A NEW PLAN!
PLIP
LEAVING SO SOON, SPIDER-MAN?
WHU--?!
I THINK...
...NOT.
WOPP

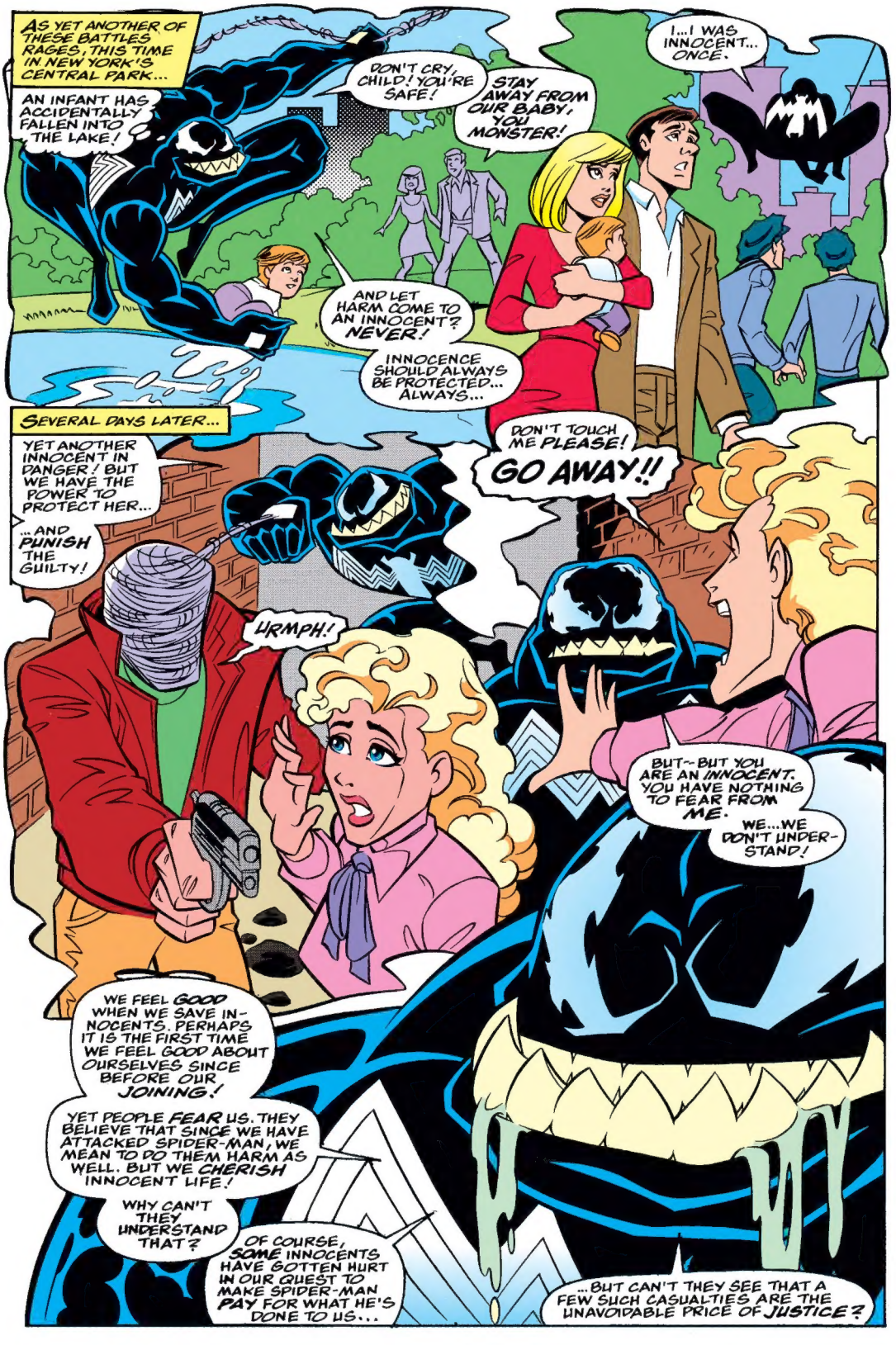

LATER...
WELCOME BACK...
...TO THE LAND OF THE LIVING, SPIDER-MAN! TOO BAD YOUR STAY WILL BE SUCH A SHORT ONE.
WHA--?
WHERE AM I?
YOU ONCE TRIED TO KILL MY "OTHER" WITH THESE BELLS, SPIDER-MAN! IT SEEMS ONLY APPROPRIATE THAT THEY SHOULD KILL YOU INSTEAD!
THE CENTRAL BELL IS ABOUT TO TOLL TWELVE MIDNIGHT--BUT YOU'LL BE GUT JAM BY THE TIME IT STRIKES TWO!
THAT STILL DOESN'T EXPLAIN WHY YOU'RE DRESSED LIKE A PRIEST!
WE'RE IN A CHURCH, SPIDER-MAN! IS IT NOT APPROPRIATE GARB...
...FOR CONDUCTING LAST RITES OVER YOU?
HOW COMFORTING.
NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE US--
--WE'RE AFRAID THE NOISE OF THE CLAPPER HITTING THE BELL --AFTER IT'S SMASHED YOUR BONES--
--WOULD BE MOST UNPLEASANT FOR US!
FINALLY--THE MOMENT WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR SO LONG!
WITH SPIDER-MAN GONE, WE CAN HAVE BACK THE LIFE HE TOOK FROM US --THE LIFE WE DESERVE!

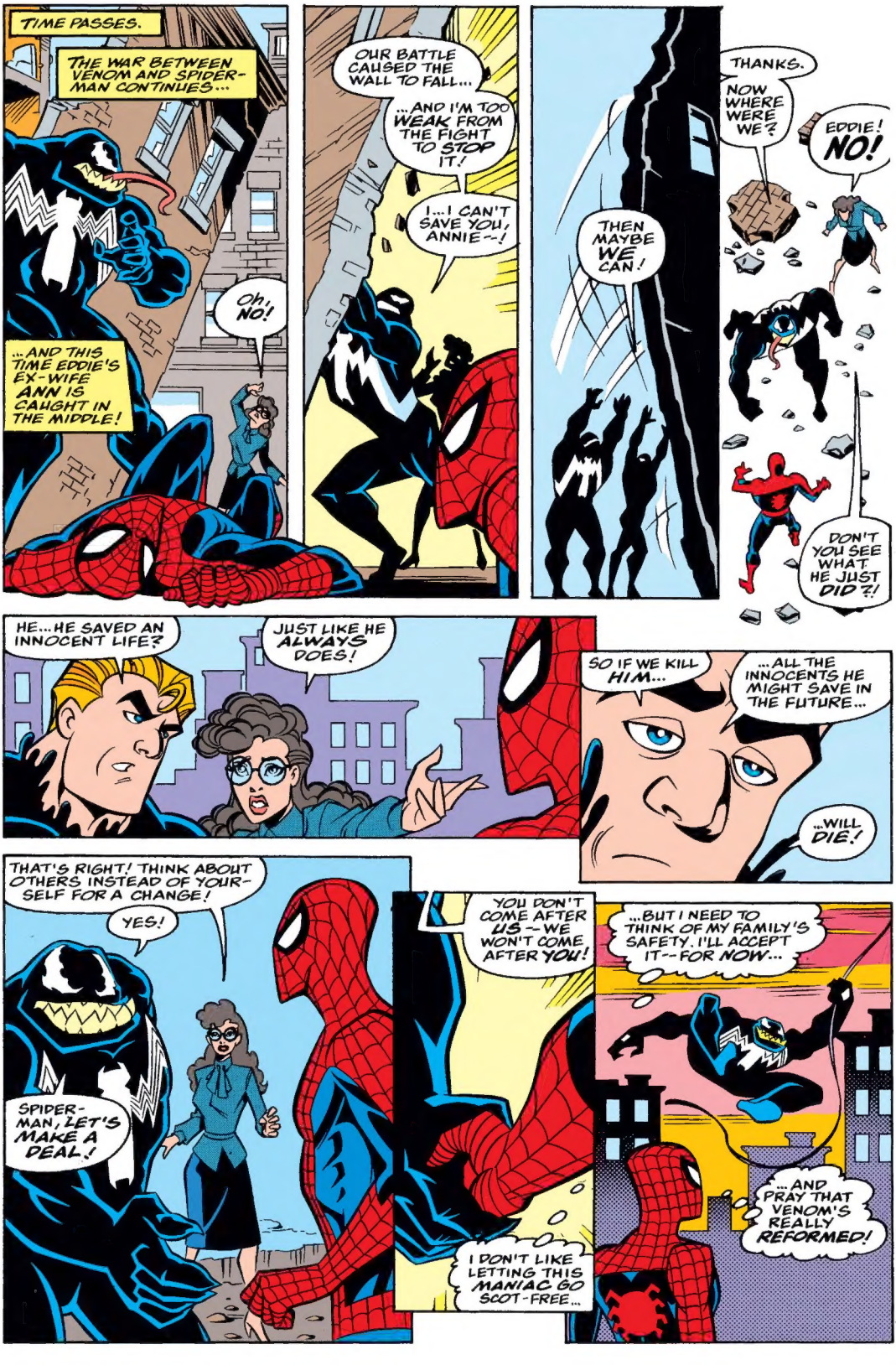

Uh-Oh -- OTHER BELLS ARE STARTING TO TOLL! AND THAT MEANS...
...THIS BELL TOLLS FOR ME!
VENOM'S WEBBING IS AS STRONG AS MINE -- BUT I HAVE NO CHOICE!
GOTTA USE BRUTE STRENGTH --PUSH A HAND THROUGH--
--IT'S MY ONLY CHANCE!
STOPPED IT THIS TIME... BUT GOTTA DO MORE BEFORE THAT CLAPPER CRUSHES THE BONES IN MY PALM INTO POWDER!
STRANGE. WE SHOULD HAVE HEARD SOMETHING BY NOW.
A CRUNCH... A SCREAM... SOME-THING!
YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO DIE, SPIDER-MAN!
BUT NO, YOU BROKE THE RULES! NOW...
...YOU'LL HAVE TO BE PUNISHED!
AND HOW DO YOU PLAN TO DO THAT, VENOM--

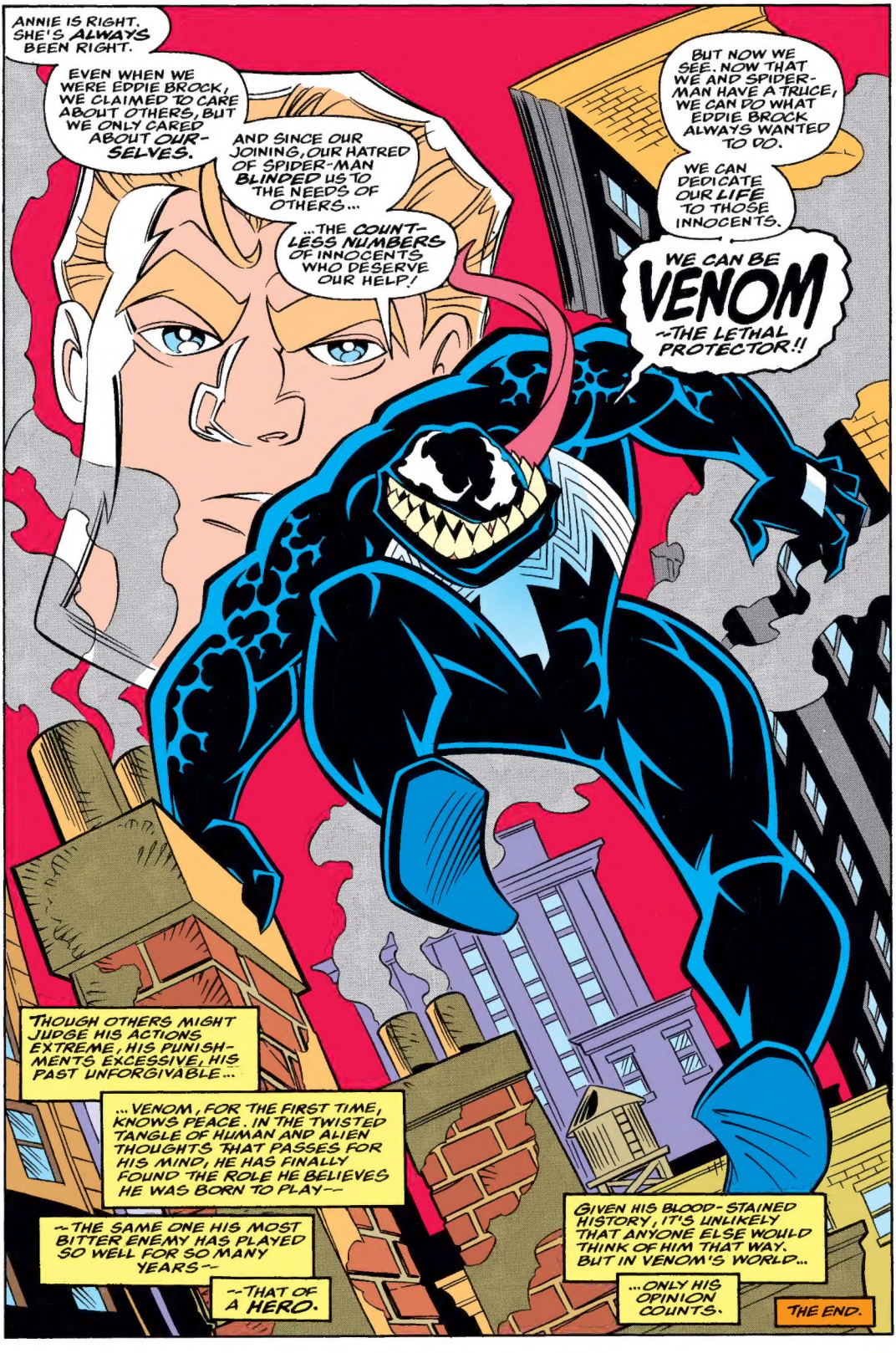

~TAKE AWAY MY TV PRIVILEGES?
GOTTA KEEP HIM CHASING ME.
I FIGURE HE MUST'VE USED UP GALLONS OF WEBBING TO WEB ME TO THAT BELL~
~AND SINCE I KNOW HIS WEBBING IS PART OF THE SYMBIOTE'S OWN SUBSTANCE, THE MORE WEBBING I GET HIM TO USE UP SWINGING AFTER ME...
...THE WEAKER HE SHOULD BECOME!
CHRAK
NO!
JUST LIKE I THOUGHT. THE SYMBIOTE WAS SO DEPLETED AND HASN'T HAD ENOUGH TIME TO REGENERATE ANY OF ITS SUBSTANCE THAT VENOM COULDN'T EVEN SHOOT OUT A WEB-LINE TO SAVE HIMSELF!
AND BEFORE THE SYMBIOTE DOES REGENERATE, I'D BETTER MAKE SOME ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE AUTHORITIES TO LOCK THIS MANIAC AWAY FROM THE PUBLIC FOR A VERY LONG TIME!


THE VAULT--
--A MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON IN COLORADO BUILT FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF CONTAINING DANGEROUS SUPER-CRIMINALS...
...AND FOR THE LAST SEVERAL WEEKS, THERE HAS BEEN NO MORE DANGEROUS INMATE RESIDING WITHIN THESE STEEL WALLS THAN...
...VENOM!
SINCE HIS ARRIVAL, HE HAS SAT SILENTLY, CONSUMED BY A SINGLE THOUGHT...
WE MUST KILL SPIDER-MAN!
OUR STRENGTH IS RENEWED. IT IS TIME.
MOMENTS LATER, AS A SECURITY GUARD PATROLS THE CORRIDOR...
EH? ONE OF MY FELLOW GUARDS IN THAT CELL!
VENOM MUST'VE ESCAPED!
DISABLING THE SONIC SHIELD DESIGNED TO KEEP VENOM INSIDE HIS CELL, THE GUARD RUSHES IN.
HE IMMEDIATELY REALIZES HE'S MADE A MISTAKE...
GLUMPH!
...HIS LAST.
THE DEATH OF AN INNOCENT IS ALWAYS A TRAGIC AFFAIR.
THAT YOU ONLY STARTED WORKING HERE A FEW DAYS AGO AND HAD NOT YET LEARNED OF OUR ABILITY TO DISGUISE OURSELVES MAKES YOUR DEATH EVEN SADDER.
BUT SACRIFICES MUST BE MADE...

"...IF VENOM IS TO BE FREE ONCE MORE!"
AND FREE HE IS... TO RELENTLESSLY, MERCILESSLY ATTACK SPIDER-MAN!
IN THE MONTHS THAT FOLLOW, VENOM LAUNCHES ONE FEROCIOUS ASSAULT AFTER ANOTHER AGAINST THE WALL-CRAWLER...
...THREATENING MANY OF SPIDER-MAN'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS ALONG THE WAY.
EVEN SPIDEY'S FELLOW CRIME-FIGHTERS LIKE THE BLACK CAT ARE DRAWN IN... UNABLE TO ESCAPE THE SAVAGERY OF VENOM'S SINGLE-MINDED OBSESSION.
AND MORE INNOCENT LIVES ARE LOST--
--BY THOSE UNFORTUNATE ENOUGH TO GET IN VENOM'S WAY.
BUT FOR ALL HIS MURDEROUS EFFORTS, VENOM SUCCEEDS ONLY IN ADDING TO HIS FRUSTRATION AND RAGE...
...FOR SPIDER-MAN STILL LIVES!


AS YET ANOTHER OF THESE BATTLES RAGES, THIS TIME IN NEW YORK'S CENTRAL PARK...
AN INFANT HAS ACCIDENTALLY FALLEN INTO THE LAKE!
DON'T CRY, CHILD! YOU'RE SAFE!
STAY AWAY FROM OUR BABY, YOU MONSTER!
I...I WAS INNOCENT... ONCE.
AND LET HARM COME TO AN INNOCENT? NEVER!
INNOCENCE SHOULD ALWAYS BE PROTECTED... ALWAYS...
SEVERAL DAYS LATER...
YET ANOTHER INNOCENT IN DANGER! BUT WE HAVE THE POWER TO PROTECT HER...
...AND PUNISH THE GUILTY!
DON'T TOUCH ME PLEASE! GO AWAY!!
URMPH!
BUT--BUT YOU ARE AN INNOCENT. YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM ME.
WE...WE DON'T UNDERSTAND!
WE FEEL GOOD WHEN WE SAVE INNOCENTS. PERHAPS IT IS THE FIRST TIME WE FEEL GOOD ABOUT OURSELVES SINCE BEFORE OUR JOINING!
YET PEOPLE FEAR US. THEY BELIEVE THAT SINCE WE HAVE ATTACKED SPIDER-MAN, WE MEAN TO DO THEM HARM AS WELL. BUT WE CHERISH INNOCENT LIFE!
WHY CAN'T THEY UNDERSTAND THAT?
OF COURSE, SOME INNOCENTS HAVE GOTTEN HURT IN OUR QUEST TO MAKE SPIDER-MAN PAY FOR WHAT HE'S DONE TO US...
...BUT CAN'T THEY SEE THAT A FEW SUCH CASUALTIES ARE THE UNAVOIDABLE PRICE OF JUSTICE?


TIME PASSES.
THE WAR BETWEEN VENOM AND SPIDER-MAN CONTINUES...
...AND THIS TIME EDDIE'S EX-WIFE ANN IS CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE!
Oh, NO!
OUR BATTLE CAUSED THE WALL TO FALL...
...AND I'M TOO WEAK FROM THE FIGHT TO STOP IT!
I...I CAN'T SAVE YOU, ANNIE--!
THEN MAYBE WE CAN!
THANKS.
NOW WHERE WERE WE?
EDDIE! NO!
DON'T YOU SEE WHAT HE JUST DID?!
HE...HE SAVED AN INNOCENT LIFE?
JUST LIKE HE ALWAYS DOES!
SO IF WE KILL HIM...
...ALL THE INNOCENTS HE MIGHT SAVE IN THE FUTURE...
...WILL DIE!
THAT'S RIGHT! THINK ABOUT OTHERS INSTEAD OF YOURSELF FOR A CHANGE!
YES!
SPIDER-MAN, LET'S MAKE A DEAL!
YOU DON'T COME AFTER US--WE WON'T COME AFTER YOU!
I DON'T LIKE LETTING THIS MANIAC GO SCOT-FREE...
...BUT I NEED TO THINK OF MY FAMILY'S SAFETY. I'LL ACCEPT IT--FOR NOW...
...AND PRAY THAT VENOM'S REALLY REFORMED!


ANNIE IS RIGHT. SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN RIGHT.
EVEN WHEN WE WERE EDDIE BROCK, WE CLAIMED TO CARE ABOUT OTHERS, BUT WE ONLY CARED ABOUT OUR-SELVES.
AND SINCE OUR JOINING, OUR HATRED OF SPIDER-MAN BLINDED US TO THE NEEDS OF OTHERS...
...THE COUNT-LESS NUMBERS OF INNOCENTS WHO DESERVE OUR HELP!
BUT NOW WE SEE. NOW THAT WE AND SPIDER-MAN HAVE A TRUCE, WE CAN DO WHAT EDDIE BROCK ALWAYS WANTED TO DO.
WE CAN DEDICATE OUR LIFE TO THOSE INNOCENTS.
WE CAN BE VENOM --THE LETHAL PROTECTOR!!
THOUGH OTHERS MIGHT JUDGE HIS ACTIONS EXTREME, HIS PUNISH-MENTS EXCESSIVE, HIS PAST UNFORGIVABLE...
...VENOM, FOR THE FIRST TIME, KNOWS PEACE. IN THE TWISTED TANGLE OF HUMAN AND ALIEN THOUGHTS THAT PASSES FOR HIS MIND, HE HAS FINALLY FOUND THE ROLE HE BELIEVES HE WAS BORN TO PLAY--
--THE SAME ONE HIS MOST BITTER ENEMY HAS PLAYED SO WELL FOR SO MANY YEARS--
--THAT OF A HERO.
GIVEN HIS BLOOD-STAINED HISTORY, IT'S UNLIKELY THAT ANYONE ELSE WOULD THINK OF HIM THAT WAY. BUT IN VENOM'S WORLD...
...ONLY HIS OPINION COUNTS.
THE END.